

S-362
St. Stephens Church
St. Stephens
private

c. 1870-1900

St. Stephens Methodist Church is a well preserved nineteenth-century rural chapel located in the village of the same name. Surrounded by a modest collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth-century houses, the church stands out as one of the best preserved structures in the village. The plain exterior is complemented by a largely unaltered pressed tin interior. Beaded board wainscoting and decorative pressed tin cover the walls and ceiling. Equally notable are the pine pews and Gothic Revival altar furniture.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-362

Magi No. 2003625608

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic St. Stephens Church

and/or common

2. Location

street & number North Side of Deal Island Rd. (MD 363) not for publication

city, town St. Stephens vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture
<u> </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u> </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial
	<u> </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military
			<u> </u> museum
			<u> </u> park
			<u> </u> private residence
			<u> </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<u> </u> scientific
			<u> </u> transportation
			<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Trustees of St. Stephens Church

street & number Deal Island Road telephone no.:

city, town Princess Anne state and zip code Md. 21853

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset Clerk of Court liber

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne state Md. 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. S-362

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

St. Stephens Church description

St. Stephens Church stands on the north side of Deal Island Road approximately seven miles west of Princess Anne in the small roadside village of St. Stephens, Somerset County, Maryland. The frame church faces south with the gable oriented on a north/south axis.

Built during the late nineteenth century, this single-story frame structure is supported by a brick pier foundation, and it is sheathed with a uniform layer of plain weatherboards. The steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The south (main) facade is distinguished by a three-story entrance tower. The tower appears to have been built in two stages, beginning with a single story vestibule covered by a gabled roof. Rising above the gable are two additional levels marked by a circular design of interlocking circles at midpoint and louvered tower openings above. The tower was initially designed with a spire, but that was removed several years ago and replaced with a balustrade. The upper gables of the church and the entrance vestibule are covered with fishscale shingles. The heavily molded panel doors are topped by a multi-pane transom, and small multi-pane windows light each side of the vestibule.

Each side of the church is defined by three large multi-pane windows with slightly molded lintels. An interior brick stove stack rises from the east side. The eaves are slightly extended and the rafter feet are exposed.

The north gable end of the church has a three-sided apse with multi-pane colored glass windows to each side.

The interior of this late nineteenth-century church is well preserved with beaded board wainscoting below pressed tin sheathing covering the walls and ceiling. The pressed tin design consists of classical swags and a fleur-de-lis pattern. The front vestibule is trimmed with decorative sawn corner brackets. The sanctuary is divided in a traditional manner with three blocks of pine pews. The pews appear to have been locally made. The altar rail consists of turned balusters and end posts that support a molded handrail. The slightly raised altar retains Gothic Revival church furniture. Fixed behind the altar furniture is a beaded board knee wall that divides the pulpit area from the apse, which is the location of the organ. The ceiling has period lighting fixtures which hang from large pressed tin medallions.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SIGNIFICANCE

St. Stephens Methodist Church is a well preserved late nineteenth-century rural chapel centrally located in the village of the same name. Surrounded by a modest collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth-century houses, the church stands out as one of the best preserved structures in the village. The plain exterior is complemented by a largely unaltered pressed tin interior with pine pews and Gothic Revival altar furniture.

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**DAMES' QUARTER BUSINESS REFER-
ENCES.**

CAPT. JOHN D. SCOTT, Jr., Oysterman. Oysters caught and sold in season. P. O. address, Dames' Quarter.

WILLIAM BAKER, Owner and Master of Pungy

MANHEIM W. TODD Owner
Schooner "L. Virginia. Freight
points on Chesapeake Bay. De
JOHN T. WHITE, Dealer in In-
ries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes,
ware, Tinware, Ship Chandlery,
Crab Island. P. O. Princess Anne
JOHN W. & JOHN C. WALKER
Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Co-
Hardware, Queensware, Glass &
Soaps, Fancy Articles, Notions,
Peter's. P. O. box 65, Princess
WM. S. SMITH, Carpenter, Con-
Residence, Dames' Quarter Dist-
Anne, Md.
WM. T. HASTINGS, Manufact-
Lumber. Custom Work done at
r lumber promptly filled. Res-
O. address Princess Anne, Md.
J. FURNISS, Plasterer, Ba-
nnd Builder. All damages of
for and neatly constructed. M

MONIE

Sob Pt

Bay Pt

MONIE 2

Monie M

W

Little

St. Peters Marsh

MONGRIF NECK

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St. Stephens Church

Monie, MD Quadrangle, 1942

S T

Monie

St Stephen

BM X56

BM W56

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St. Stephens Church

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St. Stephens, Somerset Co. Md.

Church Pews

6/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



St. Stephens Church

S-362

St. Stephens, Somerset Co. Md.

Altar Chair

6/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



St. Stephens Church

S-362

St. Stephens, Somerset Co. Md.

Decorative Tin

6/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



St. Stephens Church

S-362

St. Stephens, Somerset Co. Md.

Decorative Corner Bracket

6/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust